

and the running, by them, of the indispensable common services, was no theorem it was part and parcel of the \var against waste They foresaw that the application of science, plus the use of intelligent, i e co-ordinated, organisation, promised, in the economic sphere, a vast increase in productivity They wrote, for instance, m 1920, that

"There is good ground for expecting discovery in physical science to go forward by leaps and bounds, in a way that may presently transform all our dealings with forms of force and kinds of substance "

They also saw that this, under Capitalism, promised no necessary raising of the common level of comfort

Such raising of the common level is only possible in so far as rents, created in the last analysis by social effort, are socially owned In this central view they have never \aned it is the kernel of their sociological conviction

As to the methods and forms of social ownership, however, their thought developed, as time went on, and as they took in the new facts of contemporary development, saw the relevance of the Trust and Combine on the one hand, and the march of voluntary associations on the other So, while originally set in a bureaucratic mould, it became thoroughly democratic This development is characteristic they have, on methods, always been ready to use a "working hypothesis } and never, as happens so often, become so attached to that hypothesis as to be blinded to changes it may require

if it is to achieve the purpose that lies behind
For them,
the major purpose is always clear, the world
must be made
into a place in which people—not some
people but all—
can live in freedom and in happiness Any
economic
arrangement is but an instrument to that
end the waste
on which they wage incessant war, is the
waste of human
life The full transformation of society from an
individualist-
capitalist to a co-operative Socialist form
must take time